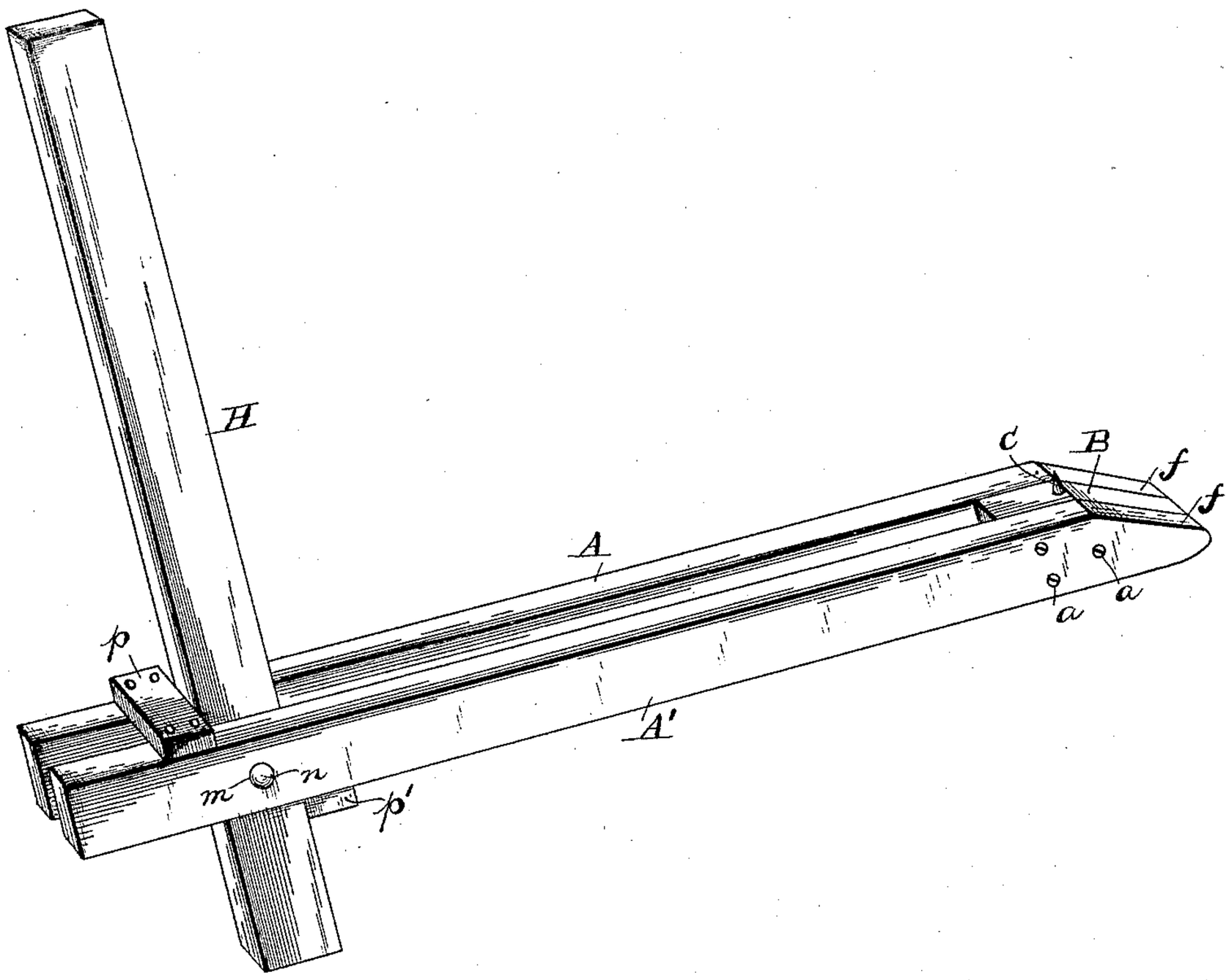
(No Model.)

G. A. BILLINGS.

THILL SUPPORT.

No. 432,689. Patented July 22, 1890.



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GEORGE A. BILLINGS, OF WINDSOR, VERMONT.

THILL-SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 432,689, dated July 22, 1890.

Application filed May 12, 1890. Serial No. 351,374. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. BILLINGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Windsor, in the county of Windsor and State of Vermont, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Carriage-Shaft Holder; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved device for holding up the shafts of carriages, buggies, &c., when they are not in use, thus preventing them from getting broken by being stepped on, and giving more room for moving about in the stable or yard.

The drawings represent a perspective view of the device.

Like letters refer to like parts.

A A′ are two similar and parallel strips of hard wood, about one-half an inch thick and over an inch wide; but the dimensions may be varied to suit. To hold the strips sufficiently apart—say one-half an inch—a block B is inserted between their rear ends, and nails *a a* are driven through said ends and the block to firmly fasten them together. From the upper surface of block B extends a sharp brad *c*, for biting into the wood of the vehicle-body or whatever it may touch, and to remove sharp edges and give the brad full play the rear end of the holder is beveled or cut away at *f f*. Where the rear end of the holder is to rest against the upper bow of the vehicle-spring only, the brad will not be necessary.

H is the tongue or holding-strip. It is somewhat shorter than strips A A′, and is hinged or pivoted to rise and fall between them by an iron pin *m* passing through all. This pin *m* may have an integral oval head *n*, and the other end of it can be riveted or flattened down upon an iron washer at the side of strip A′; but I do not think it necessary to show this simple way of fastening the pin in place.

In order to keep strip H from falling outward when holding the shafts or when it is in a vertical position, stops *p p′* are employed, the former fastened to the top of strips A A′ and the latter to the bottom, said stops being about an inch apart. It will also be seen that the lower stop will prevent strip H from falling below strips A A′ when the former strip is closed down between the latter like a knife-blade. It will now be seen that by placing the top of strip H under the whiffletree-bar of the shafts, the shafts having been previously raised and the beveled end of the holder under the vehicle-body or forward spring, the shafts will be held up. The device is a double-armed lever, the stops *p p′* acting as fulcrums, the weight of the shafts transmitted to the rear end of the holder being overcome by that of the vehicle-body, &c.

The device is strong and effective, and, being made of wood, can be manufactured economically. As the strip H closes down between the other strips when not in use, the holder takes up no more room than a piece of solid wood of the same dimensions, and the strip H being thus protected, the holder can be thrown down or left anywhere without danger of breaking it.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a shaft-holder, the combination, with the strips A A′, of the strip H, hinged between them, and the stops *p p′*, for preventing strip H from falling outward beyond a vertical or below the bottom of strips A A′, as set forth.

2. In a shaft-holder, the combination, with the parallel strips A A′, of the separating-block B, having brad *c*, the pin or pivot *m*, the strip H, turning thereon and between said strips A A′, the upper stop *p*, and the lower stop *p′*, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE A. BILLINGS.

Witnesses:
J. C. ENRIGHT,
HORACE WESTON.